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Thursday 2 February 2017



NEWSLETTER 1

Dear Parents and Caregivers - Tena koutou katoa

Nga mihi o te tau hou ki a koutou katoa — greetings and happy new year to you all.

WELCOME TO GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

A special hello to the children and their families who have started at our school this week:

Danni Marsh	Aimee Fordyce	Jiah Pinto	Kruuden Cooper
Dylan Papp	Ciara Brown	Declan Brown	Alex Dibben
Olivia Dibben	Bella Bedford	Kayleigh Bedford	Daniel Hoffmeister
Sahara Godke	Kay-Leigh Hodges	Jaemon Hodges	Ray Hodges
Lily Ware	Olivia Ware	Dot Fowler	Leo Fowler
Harrison Roil	Ella Martin	Baylee Martin	Travis Cooper
Echaia Pahi	Andy Huang	Dylin McNicol	Cruz McNicol

They all need to be congratulated on the start they have made and the way they have settled into GMS. These enrolments mean we have started the year with 436 students as of today.

STAFFING UPDATE

We welcome Miss Rebecca Start who has commenced the year in Room 13 with the wonderful group of Year 5s in that class. Our staff for 2017 is as follows:

Principal	Mark Johnson	Deputy Principal	Maaka Papuni
Assistant Principal	Allyson Ross	Assistant Principal (Junior school)	Ali de Lange
Pixie Bryan	Room 12 (Yr 5)	Greg Bain	Room 14 (Yr 5 & 6)
Jane Carter	Room 2 (Yr 1)	Wendy Currie	Room 1 (Yr 1)
Monique Cowie	Room 7 (Yr 2)	Marty Gibbs	Room 16 (Yr 6)
Kim Davidson	Room 17 (Yr 6)	Helen Harvey	study leave Terms 1 and 2
Sarah Groenveld	Room 8 (Yr 4)	Jane McCosh	Room 10 (Yr 3)
Paula Kinsey/Shona Millner	Team 18 (Yr 3 & 4)	Toni Miles	Room 9 (Yr 4)
Sue Martin	Room 5 (Yr 2)	Antony Shroff	Room 6 (Yr 2)
Christina Tareha	Room 7 (Yr 1 & 2)	Ceirwyn Ware	Room 15 (Yr 5 & 6)

Part-Time Teachers

Catherine Webster Jane Lee

Administration

Sara Anderson	Office Administrator	Carolyn Thorburn	Office Administrator
Kim Cook	Librarian		

Teacher Aides

Linda Cunningham	Lynne Canty	Hayley Jury	Carol Mardon
Kirsten Martin	Leanne Duncan	Annie McDougall	

Property Manager	Paddy Mellon	Cleaners	Heather and Danny Kennedy
Gardener	Louise Nicholson	School Canteen	Kim Batt



WAITANGI DAY OBSERVATION

A reminder the school will be closed with Waitangi Day observation on Monday 6 February. School will reopen on Tuesday 7 February.

SUN HATS AT SCHOOL

The hot burning Hawkes Bay sun has been out in force over the last couple of days ... okay it is raining today! SO a reminder to everyone to bring their wide-brimmed hats every day during Term 1.

Suggestion: name each hat inside with a permanent marker, as well as on the small tag.

PARENT INTERVIEWS

A notice will be sent home next week outlining the information about the parent interviews set for 6 and 7 March.

ABSENCES

Our administrative staff do an excellent job of checking each day if all children are accounted for at school. If we have a child who is absent and we have no explanation, then Mrs Anderson will ring or text the family. She will then ring emergency contacts in an attempt to find out where the child is and check that they are safe. If there is no information as a result of these calls, then our school's policy is to inform the local truancy officer and involve them. This happens as a result of our concern for all children and doing all we can to make sure they are safe.

You can help making sure the school knows if your child is going to be absent or late for school before the start of the school day. A message on the school's answer service, email or note should be provided if your child will not be at school to start the day at 9.00am.

If your child is going to be absent from school please do one of the following:

- please ring the school office on **8447024**
- or text **0279264452** before 9.00am with the reason why your child is absent

Please make sure you do this **before** 9.00am on the morning your child is going to be absent as the office staff are spending a lot time contacting parents to make sure their children are safe.

WALKING BUS

We have two 'Walking Bus' routes at GMS. Children are welcome to join. On Thursday mornings we leave from the Avondale Road end of Park Road at 8.10am and travel along Ross Place and Bowling Road, before turning onto Osier Road. We aim to arrive at school at 8.30am. Most children bring their scooters, so this trip moves along quickly!

On Friday mornings Mr Gibbs leads a walking bus. Anyone is welcome to join the bus but it is most suitable for people who live in the King Street/Elbourne Street/Chester Street area.

Children will be 'picked up' from their houses (or near their houses) from 7.45 am. Mr G then has a staff meeting at 8.10 am so the children wait as a group outside the canteen until the 8.30 bell.

If either Walking School Bus is cancelled due to bad weather or unavailability, an alert will be sent to parents via the GMS app in the 'Mr G's Walking School Bus section'. Parents should subscribe to these alerts.

HELP!!!!!!!

We yet to find hundreds of reading books and school journals which are missing out in the community from 2016. To replace these books will basically use up all our budget for new readers we had planned to buy this year. Please look for these if you might have any at home: under beds in cupboards, any where. We desperately need them back.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

Our first assembly for the year will be on Friday morning at 11.20am in the Heart of the School.



SCHOOL CANTEEN

The school canteen will re-open on Wednesday 8 February. An updated canteen menu has been uploaded to the school website.

LIBRARY NEWS

The school library is now open each day from 8.30-8.55am each morning and at lunchtimes from 1.15-1.45pm for issues and returns. Listen to the daily notices to find out the different types of activities in the library each lunch time.

Classes visit the library each week at an allocated time when students can issue and return books. All books need to be in a book bag before they leave the library and this bag needs to be used at all times to help protect our books. Students can issue books for two weeks.

Overdue or damaged books will be charged to the student. It is the student's responsibility to take care and return all issued books.

Scholastic Book orders will be sent home on Tuesday 7th February and close on Friday 17th. 'LOOP' is the easiest way to order and could be the luckiest! Every order placed from Issue 1 online via the LOOP app goes in the draw for a chance to win 20 books from this issue for you, and another 50 for our school.

Visit: mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz to order and pay online with Book Club Loop.

SPORTS NOTICES

TERM 1 SPORTS AT GMS

We are delighted to be offering a huge range of after school and Saturday sports to our pupils during Term 1. Basketball, Cricket, Volleyball, Teeball/Minipitch, Netball, Summer Hockey and Canoe Polo - there is something for everyone.

We encourage all children to get involved, become part of a team, and perhaps try something new. Information and registration forms have been sent home with all children, and spare copies are available at the school office and on the school website.

Please return permission forms to the sports box in the office by Tuesday 7th February to ensure your placement in a team. Note - if you played for any GMS team in 2016 you must still complete a registration form to play again this term. Spare forms are available at the school office and on the school website.

KIDS BOXING TERM 1

The Lab Health and Fitness, Onekawa, are offering kids boxing lessons for ages 5-9 and 10-14 during Term 1. Designed to build confidence, have fun, learn self defence, make new friends and get fit - this program is a great opportunity to try something new. Classes are held twice weekly, beginning Monday 13th February. For full information and registration phone 8421120.

2017 WEETBIX KIDS TRYATHLON - Wednesday 15th February

Entries for the Weetbix Kids TRYathlon have been extended to 8th February!!

This event has more than thirty children entered from GMS so far ... it is not too late. If you want to be part of this see Mrs Sue Martin by Tuesday afternoon for the information needed to get a discounted entry.

FRIENDLY DENTAL IRONKIDS TRIATHLON SERIES

A fun series of triathlons hosted by TRI HB at Ocean Spa, Napier, for children aged 8 - 13yrs. Have a go at one, or all three on Sunday 26th February and 26th March. Children can enter as individual competitors and complete the full swim, cycle, run on their own, or form a team with one or two friends to complete a stage each. Entry is made online for each of these triathlons at www.trihb.kiwi, or can be made on the day.

ENTRIES ARE NOT MADE THROUGH THE SCHOOL, so please do not bring money or forms to school.



GMS TRIATHLON CLUB

Any children keen on having a go at the Weetbix or Iron kids Triathlons are invited to join the GMS Triathlon Club to train and learn how to prepare for their event. To join simply visit Mrs Martin in Room 5 and register your name. Training will be held on Wednesday lunchtimes from 8th February. Information notices regarding the club are available through class teachers, at the school office, and on the school website.

GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL PTA

The PTA have their first meeting next week on WEDNESDAY 8 February in the staffroom. Start time is 7.30pm. Please come along if you can — we are starting planning for our Food Fair which is coming later this term. All are most welcome to attend—come along and find out about ways to support our school.

GMS PTA FOOD FAIR—FRIDAY 24 MARCH

It seems a long way off ... but it isn't really. We are planning for the biggest and most entertaining GMS PTA Food Fair yet. New addition will be a 'White Elephant' maxi stall — so start thinking about things that can be donated for this. Please do not bring anything to school yet: we will inform you of a date for dropping off.

Also in preparation does anyone have access to chillers, deep fat fryers and other food preparation equipment? If you can help please let the office or a PTA member know. Many thanks.

VIOLIN LESSONS

Once again, the Ministry of Education is offering free violin lessons for Year 3 to 6 students attending Taradale Primary School in 2016. It is not necessary for students to have their own violin, as they can be hired through the Napier Instrumental Classes, for \$50 for the year. A charge may be made for a suitable music book as well.

The weekly lessons are held after school at Taradale Intermediate School, Murphy Road. Most likely, they will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Preference will be given to Year 5 and 6 students, and there will be a waiting list if all the spaces become filled.

The classes are group lessons of two to six players, depending on the groups and the numbers enrolled. There are 30 lessons per year.

Enrol by contacting the tutor with your child's name, age, preferred day and you will be contacted:

Phone, text, or email the tutor: Charlotte van Asch.charvanasch@gmail.com Ph 027 6778118

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

6 Feb	Waitangi Day observation
8 Feb	Canteen reopens
18 Feb	Weetbix Tryathlon
6 and 7 Mar	Parent Interviews

Have a great week and enjoyable Waitangi weekend — we certainly have had a excellent start here at school.

Ka kite ano,

Mark Johnson
Principal

